

The man who knows Slew better than anyone, his groom of 15 years, Tom Wade, says Slew hasn't changed much over the years. He has a touch of arthritis and his back has drooped just a bit. "But he's a fit horse," Wade said. "You can look at him and see that."

Now, as the 20th anniversary of his Triple Crown approaches, Judy DeHaan, the exercise rider at Three Chimneys, has noticed something funny about Slew.

"It's almost like he knows," she said. "He's gotten a little spring in his step again. Lately, it's like 'Hold on Judy. We're gonna go.'"

"Even at 23, on his good days, he's still got it." ●

PAYMENT OF LEGAL OBLIGATIONS TO THE UNITED NATIONS

● Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, I rise today to join with over 1,400 of my constituents from Minnesota who have signed a petition calling for the payment of all of the United States' legal obligations to the United Nations by the immediate payment of all dues in arrears. I agree with my constituents that it is embarrassing that the United States, the richest and most powerful nation on Earth, expects the United Nations to provide peacekeeping and humanitarian aid in response to the world's conflicts but does not honor its financial responsibility to the United Nations.

With several billion dollars of uncollected dues, the United Nations is now in dire straits. Consequently, it must borrow from scarce funds allocated for peacekeeping operations simply to pay staff salaries and to meet its other financial obligations.

Of the unpaid dues approximately half are owed by the United States. Rather than providing other U.N. members with an example of international responsibility, our Nation is doing just the opposite. This makes the United Nations increasingly incapable of carrying out numerous tasks that are clearly in our Nation's interest but that we ourselves are either unable or unwilling to perform.

I ask that the cover letter sent to me by the Minnesota Alliance of Peacemakers and the World Federalists Association with the petitions on this important issue be printed in the RECORD.

The cover letter follows:

WORLD FEDERALIST ASSOCIATION,
MINNESOTA CHAPTER,
Minneapolis, MN, April 19, 1997.

Hon. PAUL WELLSTONE,
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR WELLSTONE: We, the undersigned representatives of the Minnesota Alliance of Peacemakers and of the Minnesota Chapter of the World Federalist Association, are honored by your willingness to meet with us in respect to some matters that bear closely on your duties as a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. That assignment is, in our view, among the most important that any member of the Senate could receive, given the complex and increasing political, economic, and ecological interdependencies within our ever-shrinking planet.

While the world looks to the United States for leadership in this period of transition to a new post-Cold War era, we believe that, it

would like to see such leadership exercised within the context of the United Nations System. However, as you are well aware, the viability of that system has been seriously jeopardized because of the non-payment or late payment of dues by many member nations. The principal debtor, by far, is the United States. This country's failure to meet its legal obligations as a UN member sets a deplorable example for others and is not a proper way to exercise leadership. Rather, it tarnishes the good name of the United States in the international community and diminishes our effectiveness in world affairs. For this reason, among others, we submit to you copies of petitions signed by 1417 Minnesotans calling on the United States to pay its current and back dues to the UN promptly and in full. The collection of these signatures is the result of a local drive by the Minnesota Chapter and a recent national drive by the national organization of the World Federalists Association, on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the United Nations. This initiative is consistent with one of the accompanying policy positions adopted by the Minnesota Alliance of Peacemakers on November 12, 1996. A copy of those proposals has already been forwarded to your office. The Alliance, be it noted, is a coalition of twenty-seven peace and justice organizations whose combined membership approaches 10,000 concerned and politically active citizens.

We hope and trust that you will weigh our views carefully in the respective proceedings of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and wish you much success and courage in the all important arena of foreign policy.

Respectfully yours,
The Rev. Lyle Christianson, President,
Minnesota Alliance of Peacemakers;
Elsie Evans, Board Member, National
World Federalists Assoc.; Evangelos
Kalambokidis, Board Member, World
Federalists Assoc. National & MN
Chapter; Mary White, Vice President,
Minnesota Alliance of Peacemakers;
and Joseph E. Schwartzberg, President,
World Federalists Assoc./MN Chapter. ●

PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF BROOKLYN, NY

● Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, founded in 1847, Plymouth Church of Brooklyn, NY, has made significant contributions to the Nation. The church building, designated in 1963 by the U.S. Department of the Interior as a national historic landmark, was known as the "Grand Central Depot of the Underground Railroad" because of the antislavery activities of Rev. Henry Ward Beecher and the congregation.

Reverend Beecher was familiar with the horrors of slavery auctions from his own observation and from experiences of members of his family, including his sister Harriet Beecher Stowe who wrote "Uncle Tom's Cabin." Thus, on several occasions between 1848 and 1860, he conducted well-publicized mock slave auctions at Plymouth Church with the results that the congregation secured the freedom of the slaves and he demonstrated to the Nation the barbarity of selling people who had been created, according to the Bible, "in the image of God." These auctions helped create a pro-abolitionist consensus in the North.

In February of 1860, Abraham Lincoln, then relatively unknown east of the Appalachians, was invited to speak

at Plymouth Church. At the last moment, the location of the speech was changed to Cooper Union where Lincoln made an address which introduced him to the eastern United States which, in turn, led to his nomination for the Presidency less than 3 months later. Lincoln worshiped at Plymouth Church on two occasions, the only times he attended church services in New York State.

Following the end of the Civil War, the congregation of Plymouth Church supported the position that women and black men should have the right to vote. Even after the 15th amendment to the Constitution gave newly emancipated black men the right to vote, Plymouth Church continued to advocate for the right of women to vote. Reverend Beecher was the only man ever to serve as president of the American Suffrage Society.

Reverend Beecher left an impact on other areas of American cultural life. He was among the first religious leaders in the United States to embrace Darwin's theory of evolution and Spencer's theories of social evolution. He was an early advocate of Jewish-Christian dialog and of giving public standing to Judaism as a major American faith group.

Because the church was for many years the largest and best known public building in Brooklyn, many notable persons have spoken there, including Wendell Phillips, Frederick Douglass, Booker T. Washington, Clara Barton, and the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Mark Twain, who described Plymouth Church's 1867 grand tour of Europe and the Holy Land in his book "Innocents Abroad," also spoke there.

In 1934, Plymouth Church and neighboring Church of the Pilgrims merged to form Plymouth Church of the Pilgrims. On May 4 of this year, Plymouth Church of the Pilgrims will celebrate the 150th anniversary of the founding of Plymouth Church and the commencement of the ministry of Rev. Henry Ward Beecher. I wish to add my congratulations to the Reverend Sharon Power Blackburn; Frank Decker, president of the Plymouth Council; and the entire congregation of Plymouth Church of the Pilgrims on this most important occasion. ●

HONORING THE MICHIGAN FDR MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I rise today to welcome the members and guests of the Michigan FDR Memorial Committee, who will be arriving in Washington for the May 2, 1997, dedication of the new memorial to our Nation's 32d President.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt infused millions of Americans with a spirit of hope during the Great Depression and World War II. Fifty-two years after his death, President Roosevelt continues